

2 September 1985
MBK-5010

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service

THROUGH: Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT: Monthly Report -- Bangkok Bureau-- August 1985

I. GENERAL

A. There was a great deal of opposition during the month to a bill before the U.S. Congress that would restrict clothing imports into the United States from Thailand, among others. If the Jenkins Bill (as it is known) passes, Thai reports estimate hundreds of thousands of jobs would be lost and chaos would hit this and associated industries. Business, trade union, and government leaders have united and the press has given prominent and extensive coverage to the issue, saying that as a friend of the U.S., Thailand deserves better treatment from the United States. There was even a protest march by about 1,500 demonstrators on the American Embassy. The crowd was orderly and even polite. The police had no trouble keeping traffic moving and the demonstrators away from Embassy grounds proper.

B. Significant events continue to take place in Indochina. On 15 and 16 August, the Indochinese foreign ministers held a conference in Phnom Penh on the issue of Cambodia. The communique indicated the Vietnamese plan to pull their troops out by 1990, the earliest yet mentioned. The group also expressed interest in ASEAN's proposed "proximity talks," a subject previously rejected by Vietnam. And there have also been reports that Vietnam will be more cooperative on the MIA issue.

C. Progress, excruciatingly slow at times, continues to be registered on ROSET. The bureau was informed "unofficially" at the end of the month of the new microwave frequencies allocated to FBIS. The bureau continues to work to obtain the formal document, reportedly now making the obligatory rounds within the bureaucracy, so that necessary equipment can be manufactured.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. On the 15th, extra monitorial staff was assigned to cover the National Day speech by India's Prime Minister Gandhi. In his speech Gandhi announced an accord with moderate Sikh leaders in the Punjab designed to ease tension there. However, the bureau found itself extending past normal closing time on the 20th to cover late-breaking reports on the assassination of Sikh leader Harchand Singh Longowal -- the principal signer of the Punjab accord for the Sikhs.

2. The Vietnamese section was almost back to full strength by the end of the month. Lengthy redocumentation travel by four monitors (one of them was the chief monitor) over the course of the summer made staffing tight. With the one remaining monitor's arrival imminent, the section is looking forward to normalcy once again.

B. Communications

STAT The bureau was advised during the month that our primary communications circuit would be rehomed [] to Clark on 9 September. Both the bureau and embassy communications will be watching the changeover closely to make sure the circuit quality is acceptable.

C. Lateral Consumers

1. On the 5th, an embassy economics section officer called to request three items from the Bangkok Post and Bangkok Nation dealing with the Jenkins Bill mentioned above. Two of the items had already been filed and the bureau consented to file the third for the consumer.

2. On the 7th, USIS asked for copies of two items filed in mid-July dealing with the People's Republic of Kampuchea National Assembly session. The bureau dug out the items and provided USIS with the requested copies.

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

STAT 1. Bureau Chief [] departed PCS to take up a Headquarters assignment as chief of Analysis Group.

2. Formal approval was received from the Ambassador for the addition of three ROSET-related FBN positions. An additional technician, cruising monitor, and teletypist were approved. A good technician candidate is in the final stages of processing. The other two positions will be filled later.

3. All obstacles were finally overcome and FBN employees and contract personnel received a wage increase averaging 2.13 percent retroactive to 17 March.

B. Building and Grounds

1. Over 90 percent of the construction of the bases or pedestals for the ROSET dishes have been completed. Erection of the dishes themselves will begin in September.

2. In other ROSET-related construction, 95 percent of a first phase renovation of the Bang Ping operations building has been completed. Extensive repairs have been made to the roof, a suitable basement storage space has been created, and improvements to the operations room itself have been made.

IV. VISITS

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A. Bureau engineer [] TDY to Headquarters 29 July-29 August
for ROSET equipment testing.

B. Army Major Francis Dong from Washington for briefing and tour during
familiarization visit to Bangkok.

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C. [] Okinawa Bureau logs officer, 16-26 August for bureau
inventory.

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Acting Chief
Bangkok Bureau

CLA:lf

Attachment:

Monthly Production Report

BANGKOK BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR AUGUST 1985

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	613,920
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	260,720
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	1,430

<u>BROAD-CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI-CATION</u>
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II. <u>INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:</u> (minutes or issues per week)	19,610 min.	20,420 min.	254.00 issues
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III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:
(publishable words per month)

AUSTRALIA

Melbourne Overseas Service in English	20,360	
Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English		910
Sydney THE BULLETIN in English		0
Sydney THE WEEKEND AUSTRALIAN in English		1,440

BANGLADESH

Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali	370	
Dhaka Domestic Service in English	1,080	
* Dhaka Overseas Service in English	640	
Dhaka BSS in English		510
Dhaka SANGBAD in Bengali		0
Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English		1,440

BRUNEI

Kuala Belait THE BORNEO BULLETIN in English		700
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BURMA

Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese	11,580	
Rangoon BOTATAUNG in Burmese		810

<u>BROAD-</u>	<u>PRESS</u>	<u>PUBLI-</u>
<u>CASTS</u>	<u>AGENCIES</u>	<u>CATION</u>

BURMA (continued)

Rangoon LOKTHA PYEITHU NEZIN in Burmese		0
Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese		0
Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English		2,620

CHINA

Beijing International Service in Bengali	0
Beijing International Service in Burmese	180
Beijing International Service in Indonesian	2,250
Beijing International Service in Lao	630
Beijing International Service in Thai	0
Beijing in Cambodian to Cambodia	1,670
Beijing in Hindi to India	0
Beijing in Malay to Malaysia	0
Beijing in Urdu to India and Pakistan	0

CLANDESTINE

(Clandestine) Vietnam Resistance Radio in Vietnamese	0
(Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian	31,580
(Clandestine) Voice of Malayan Democracy in Malay	11,770
(Clandestine) Voice of The National Army Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian	12,940
(Clandestine) Voice of The People of Burma in Burmese	0
(Clandestine) Voice of The People of Malaysia in Malay	4,600

INDIA

Delhi Domestic Service in English	40,290
* Delhi Domestic Service in Hindi	640
Delhi General Overseas Service in English	1,910
Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English	4,090

BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATION
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INDIA (continued)

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English		0
Calcutta ANANDA BAZAR PATRIKA in Bengali		0
Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English		900
Delhi INDIA TODAY in English		0
Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English		4,380
Delhi NATIONAL HERALD in English		540
Delhi PATRIOT in English		530
Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in English		1,230
Madras THE HINDU in English		0

INDONESIA

Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian	11,800	
Jakarta International Service in English	2,280	
Jakarta BERITA BUANA in Indonesian		2,060
Jakarta JAKARTA POST in English		2,610
Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian		490
Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian		4,100
Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian		8,810
Jakarta TEMPO in Indonesian		970
Jakarta THE INDONESIA TIMES in English		2,090

KAMPUCHEA

Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian	30,370	
Phnom Penh SPK in English		14,750
Phnom Penh SPK in French to KPL Vientiane		150
Phnom Penh SPK in French		6,510
* Phnom Penh VNA in English to VNA Hanoi		1,650

BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATION
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KAMPUCHEA (continued)

Phnom Penh VNA in Vietnamese to VNA Hanoi		0
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LAOS

Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao	29,130	
Vientiane KPL in English		16,140
Vientiane KPL in English/French to SPK Phnom Penh		80
Vientiane SPK in French to SPK Phnom Penh		0
Vientiane VNA in Vietnamese to VNA Hanoi		0
Vientiane PASASON in Lao		850

MALAYSIA

Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English	3,960	
Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in Malay	1,840	
Kuala Lumpur International Service in English	9,970	
Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay		1,850
Kuala Lumpur BERITA MINGGU in Malay		0
Kuala Lumpur MINGGUAN MALAYSIA in Malay		0
Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English		5,540
Kuala Lumpur NEW SUNDAY TIMES in English		0
Kuala Lumpur UTUSAN MALAYSIA in Malay		90

NEPAL

Katmandu External Service in English	860	
Katmandu THE RISING NEPAL in English		1,420

PAKISTAN

Karachi Domestic Service in English	6,020	
Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu	10,990	

<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
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PAKISTAN (continued)

Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu	2,040	
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SINGAPORE

Singapore Domestic Service in English	2,740	
Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English		11,390
Singapore THE SUNDAY TIMES in English		0

SRI LANKA

Colombo Domestic Service in English	440	
Colombo Domestic Service in Tamil	0	
Colombo International Service in English	4,810	
Colombo International Service in Hindi	0	
Colombo DAILY NEWS in English		850
Colombo SUN in English		110
Colombo WEEKEND in English		0

THAILAND

Bangkok Domestic Service in English	2,370	
Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai	9,320	
* Bangkok First Army Division Radio in Thai	1,630	
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Cambodian	2,880	
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English	1,520	
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Lao	1,450	
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai	2,720	
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Vietnamese	190	
Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English		36,120
Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English		11,840
* Bangkok KHAO PHANIT in Thai		190

BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATION
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THAILAND (continued)

* Bangkok KHAO SOT in Thai		150
Bangkok LAK THAI in Thai		0
Bangkok MATICHON SUT SAPDA in Thai		0
Bangkok MATICHON in Thai		3,890
Bangkok MATUPHUM in Thai		0
Bangkok NAE0 NA in Thai		3,800
Bangkok SIAM RAT SAPDA WICHAN in Thai		0
Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai		2,710
Bangkok SU ANAKHOT in Thai		0
Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai		2,270
Bangkok THE NATION in English		41,540
Bangkok WIWAT in Thai		0

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Moscow International Service in Tamil	0
Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Indonesian	0
Moscow in Bengali to Bangladesh	0
Moscow in Burmese to Burma	1,730
Moscow in Cambodian to Kampuchea	2,820
Moscow in Hindi to India	2,300
Moscow in Indonesian to Indonesia	2,750
Moscow in Lao to Laos	3,860
Moscow in Thai to Thailand	980
Moscow in Urdu to India	0
Moscow in Urdu to Pakistan	2,110

BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATION
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UNITED KINGDOM

London BBC World Service in English	2,510		
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VIETNAM

Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese	84,540		
Hanoi International Service in Cambodian	0		
Hanoi International Service in English	12,760		
Hanoi International Service in Thai	2,480		
Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese to NHAN DAN Ho Chi Minh City		0	
Hanoi VNA in English		1,460	
Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese			6,680
Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese			0
Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese			0

(Note: Irregular Coverage during month is marked with an asterisk)